United Nations E/C.2/2001/2/Add.11

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
18 November 2000
English
Original: English/French

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
2001 regular session

Quadrennial reports, 1995-1998 submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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1. International Federation for Hydrocephalus Spina Bifida

(Special consultative status granted in 1991)

Introduction

The International Federation for Hydrocephalus Spina Bifida (if) aims to disseminate information and expertise throughout the world to families, individuals, professionals and volunteers involved in the field of hydrocephalus and spina bifida (H&SB), support new national organizations, work towards international exchanges in relation to this, and influence legislation.

if has extended its contact network to 40 countries on all continents and supports new organizations, especially in developing countries like Kenya, Uganda, Nigeria, Guatemala, the United Republic of Tanzania, Chile, Brazil, Hungary, Romania and the Baltic States.

Biannual study meetings have been organized since 1979; since 1997, by decision of the General Meeting, meetings are now held annually, alternating between continents. The two most recent meetings were in Germany in 1997 and in Washington in 1998.

if has organized workshops and met with groups to disseminate information to member countries and has conducted meetings with parents in various places to increase expertise of existing groups and to encourage the setting up of new self-support groups.

if is building up an International Clearing House on Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida.

if has established projects in several developing countries in East Africa.

if is expanding rapidly. Since 1996 if has new members in Guatemala, Turkey and Venezuela and has received applications for membership from Chile and Mexico, which will be considered by our 1999 General Meeting. Conferences are now held annually and the number of issues per year of our magazine has doubled.

if now has a site on the Internet (http://www.asbah.demon.co.uk/ifhsb.html) and our magazine, *BackUp*, can be seen on our web site.

In 1997 if started a pilot programme for early detection, treatment and rehabilitation of children with hydrocephalus and spina bifida in Dar es Salaam. In 1998 this programme was extended to Kenya, Uganda and Guatemala.

if is building a hydrocephalus and spina bifida ward in the new disability hospital in Dar es Salaam.

if has created an if award to encourage research into hydrocephalus and spina bifida.

if funding

if relies for funding on the support of its member associations and on sponsorships. if received support from the International Disability Foundation (IDF) which hosted the if office. if received subventions from private sponsors and commercial companies; if receive a subvention from the Government of Flanders

(Belgium). NORAD, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, has funded the Africa project since 1998. Several foundations funded specific projects (Foundation "A New World", Medtronics and Oever).

if's conferences in Europe were co-funded by the European Commission. Conferences were also co-funded by our Australian, German and United States members in 1996, 1997 and 1998.

if publicizes information on United Nations activities

Information is regularly sent to if members and other contacts via our magazine, *Federation Focus*, now called *BackUp*, four times a year; attention was given to United Nations activities in the following issues: 1995: No. 19, Front cover and page 4; 1996: No. 22, page 18; 1997: No. 23, pages 3 and 5; 1997: No. 24, page 10; 1998: No. 25, page 10; 1998: No. 26, page 4 and No. 27, pages 4 and 13. These articles were also posted on the Internet.

Former United Nations Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar accepted an invitation to be the patron of our conference in Bonn. Present Secretary-General Kofi Annan visited our office in the International Disability Centre in Ferney-Voltaire, France.

In conjunction with the Platform for Handicap and Development Cooperation (PHOS), if organized from 1 to 3 December 1997 an international seminar in Brussels on the United Nations Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and Community-based Rehabilitation: a critical view.

if has had discussions with its membership on the question of elimination late in pregnancy of babies with hydrocephalus and spina bifida (and other disabilities) and recently contacted Bengt Lindqvist, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development and the International Disability President's Alliance (IDPA) on this subject.

International exchanges

if organizes international exchange by means of its own international conferences.

if organizes workshops on H&SB in East Africa for the whole region.

if organizes international training for professionals working with H&SB in developing countries.

if organized international activities in cooperation with its own members and other international organizations, such as Mobility International, during 1996/97 for young people and children with hydrocephalus and spina bifida. These included wheelchair training, sports activities and two projects, "Towards womanhood", and "VOICE (Vision of Independence Control and Empowerment)", which were aimed at building confidence, new skills, improving lifestyles and encouraging greater participation in society in general. German-Austrian-Swiss exchanges enabled new friendships to be formed and increased confidence.

if cooperation with other NGOs

if cooperates with, among others, the Swedish Organizations of Disabled International Aid Association (SHIA), NORAD and the Swedish (SIDA) and Danish (DANIDA) development agencies.

if published an important book in 1996 in collaboration with WHO, the International Association of Physiotherapists and the International Association of Occupational Therapists. There has been considerable demand for this publication worldwide, and if has approached WHO with a view to a new edition being considered. A new, updated edition of "Promoting the Development of infants and young children with spina bifida and hydrocephalus: a guide for mid-level rehabilitation workers" would include sections on recent advances in prevention and treatment of spina bifida and hydrocephalus.

if supported IDF with advice and contributions to programmes and to the *World Disability Report*. if is working on different projects jointly with the Liliane Foundation: cooperation in Nairobi, Uganda and Tanzania by funding help for individuals in our projects and organizing training for their mediators. The Liliane Foundation also helps individuals in developing countries where if has no projects. if was also cooperating during this period with Mobility International for international youth exchanges and participated in their workshops, to share expertise.

if participation in Economic and Social Council and United Nations meetings and working groups and cooperation in United Nations programmes

if's President, Pierre Mertens, participated in a UNDP sub-working group meeting on technical aids for the disabled, on 26 June 1995 in Brussels and 17 February 1996 in Copenhagen.

if forwarded a written statement on prevention to the thirty-sixth session of the Commission on Social Development on follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development.

if was represented by the President of the Spina Bifida Association of America, William Tirrell, at the NGO meeting on 12 September 1997 in New York.

if consultation and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

if signed a memorandum of understanding in June 1993 on collaborative arrangements with the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development and forwarded a mid-term report in 1995 and a full report in 1996.

if collaborates with the International Standards Organization and UNDP.

2. International Federation of Industrial Energy Consumers

(Special consultative status granted in 1991)

Summary

The International Federation of Industrial Energy Consumers (IFIEC) represents — as an example — approximately 80 per cent of the industrial energy

consumption in Europe. Activities of the Federation have seen a certain shift towards environmental topics, as the environmental aspects of energy consumption and production have gained in importance in recent years. As a result, IFIEC's cooperation with United Nations bodies, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNEP/UNFCCC), in particular, has increased considerably. Membership has grown by seven new national federations from Central Europe and South America.

Aims and purposes of IFIEC

IFIEC's fundamental objective is to cater for the needs of the industrial energy consumers in discussion with political decision makers at all levels, national, regional and international, and by promoting cooperation with other governmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular the United Nations, in relation to energy issues affecting the long-term competitiveness of consuming energy industries, covering issues such as:

(a) Proper balance between energy use and environment;

(b) Responsible industrial energy management based on rational use;

(c) Voluntary measures for the reduction of greenhouse gases;

(d) Energy taxation;

(e) Harmonization of energy policies;

(f) Creation of regional internal energy markets and networks.

The following national federations became new members of IFIEC:

Central Europe

Bulgaria	Bulgarian National Committee of Industrial Energetics Mr. Lyuben Mashkin, Chairman
Czech Republic	Asociace Energetických Manazeru Mr. Ing. Václav Simunek, Executive Director
Romania	National Association of Energy Consumers from Romania — ANCER, Mr. Constantin Miu, President
Slovak Republic	The Slovak Energy Inspection L. Mikula (observer status)

South America

	IFIEC South America (Asociación Interamericana de Consumidores Industriales de Energía)
Members	Argentina, Brazil ("old" member of IFIEC), Chile, Peru, Uruguay
	President: Ricardo Fragueyro AGUEERA (Asociación de Grandes Usuarios de Energía Eléctrica en la República Argentina)

Participation in the ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies

IFIEC has been attending regularly the meetings of the Working Party on Energy of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, in particular the Electricity Committee and the Gas Committee. IFIEC also used to participate in the meetings of the previous Chemical Industry Committee of ECE which recently, however, has become a victim of budget cuts and has been dissolved. Various representatives of IFIEC had attended, in particular, the annual meetings of the aforementioned ECE committees in the years 1995 to 1998.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

More recently, IFIEC has been very active in participating in the work of UNEP and UNFCCC. Among the more important meetings attended by the President and several board members of IFIEC were:

Conference of the Parties (COP), Berlin, 1995 (UNFCCC);

International workshop in connection with the work of the Conference of the Parties (International Energy Agency of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (IEA/OECD));

Conference of the Parties, second session, Geneva, July 1996 (UNFCCC);

Subsidiary bodies meeting, Bonn, February/March 1997;

Eighth session of the ad hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate, Bonn, November 1997 (UNFCCC);

Third Conference of the Parties, Kyoto (Japan), December 1997 (UNFCCC);

Fourth Conference of the Parties, Buenos Aires, November 1998 (UNFCCC).

Other relevant activities

Consultations and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

In connection with the preparation of the Kyoto conference, the President and several board members of IFIEC had a consultation with the Executive Secretary of UNFCCC, Michael Zammit Cutajar, on 28 July 1997.

There had been also several meetings of various board members of IFIEC with the Executive Secretary of ECE, Yves Berthelot, concerning cooperation in the field of energy.

Preparation of papers

In the course of the Third Conference of Parties to UNFCCC, representatives of IFIEC presented two papers, "Liberalization of electricity markets" and "Tradable permits". Other papers were submitted on the occasion of various COP sessions.

Sponsorship of meetings

During the eighth session of the ad hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate in Bonn, IFIEC held a workshop on "The role and contribution of intensive energy industry on the climate change debate". This workshop was attended by over 100 delegates to the UNFCCC meeting.

3. International Federation of Little Brothers of the Poor

(Special consultative status granted in 1983)

Introduction

For over half a century this volunteer-based organization, founded in Paris by Armand Marquiset in 1946, has as its primary purpose to address the problems of isolated and/or handicapped elderly people in need.

The International Federation was created in 1979 in order to group together national organizations of Little Brothers/Friends of the Elderly/*Les petits frères des pauvres*. At present, such national organizations are established in the following countries: France, Morocco, the United States, Canada, Ireland, Mexico, Spain and Germany.

In addition to material assistance as needed, members seek to provide friendship and affection to their elderly friends through visits, social activities and holiday outings for those who would otherwise have none. Moreover, since the beginning of its existence the organization has been the initiator of many advanced projects that have subsequently served as models in the realm of service to the elderly. Today special attention is directed to the needs of two population segments in particular. First and primarily served are extremely old and dependent elderly. More recently attention has been focused on "young elderly" (55-65 years) suffering from long-term unemployment and unable, in the current economic climate, to find a means of supporting themselves until reaching official retirement age, thereby running the risk of becoming the elderly poor of tomorrow.

Activities 1995-1998

United Nations meetings and conferences attended

The Executive Director took part in the Workshop on Population Ageing in Europe and North America at the United Nations Office at Geneva on 13 and 14 February 1995. At the conclusion of the workshop, delegates drafted a message to the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, March 1995).

In September 1995 the Executive Director attended the Department of Public Information/NGO annual conference, "The United Nations at the turn of the century: global issues, global actors, global responsibility", at United Nations Headquarters. The Executive Director also took part in the 1996 annual conference, "The United Nations: facing the challenges of a changing world", held at United Nations Headquarters from 10 to 12 September. In 1997 the Executive Director again attended the annual DPI/NGO conference, "Building partnerships", held at United Nations Headquarters.

On 25 and 26 June 1998 the Executive Director attended as an observer the board meeting of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

The Executive Director attended the annual DPI/NGO conference, "The fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: from words to deeds", at United Nations Headquarters 14-16 September 1998.

Internal activities pertaining to the United Nations relationship

At the biennial General Assembly meetings of the International Federation held in Chicago (1995) and Mont-Evray, France (1997), the Executive Director reported to the Assembly on issues and activities involving the International Federation and the United Nations. At these meetings posters and information sheets from the United Nations concerning the United Nations and ageing, in several languages, were made available to delegates. The United Nations Principles for Older Persons are included in the special training packet provided to new volunteers in Chicago. In addition, the Executive Director regularly reports to the executive board concerning his liaison with the United Nations and disseminates all appropriate information.

Many members of the International Federation celebrate the International Day of Older Persons (1 October). In Quebec the member association uses this date to award an annual Prix Armand Marquiset to an individual and an organization for outstanding service to the elderly.

The Mexican member association participates in a week-long campaign for the *dignificación del anciano* terminating with a large festival in a public square on 1 October.

The Chicago organization marks the day with an international party for the elderly where all present, in this multi-ethnic city, are invited to present a song, a poem or a dish of food typical of their original culture or language.

The French organization *Les amis des petits frères* sponsored numerous events on 1 October 1995 to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and the International Day of Older Persons.

In 1998 the international Federation began extensive preparations to mark the International Year of Older Persons in 1999.

4. International Motor Vehicle Inspection Committee

(Consultative status granted in 1987)

Brief introductory statement recalling the aims and purposes of the organization

The International Motor Vehicle Inspection Committee (CITA) is an international non-profit association registered in Belgium and incorporated under Belgium law (identification No. 111049/89).

The stated purpose of CITA is:

(a) To facilitate the exchange of information and experience among its members about matters within the field of compulsory inspection of in-service motor vehicles and their trailers with regard to road safety and/or the protection of the environment;

(b) To propose, coordinate and develop studies and scientific inquiries to improve the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of inspection of in-service motor vehicles and trailers carried out to meet compulsory periodic test requirements or inspections carried out by enforcement authorities.

Activities include:

(a) Standardization of the inspection methods;

(b) Standardization of the inspection conditions applicable to the different categories of vehicles;

(c) Improvement and standardization of quality control, assurance and accreditation systems and standards used to ensure the consistent application of the pass and fail criteria;

(d) Improvement and standardization of information systems which hold data on inspection and which are used to improve inspection consistency and to increase the effectiveness of police inspections;

(e) Improvement of the professional training of the personnel appointed to carry out the compulsory inspections of in-service motor vehicles and their trailers;

(f) Cooperation with the European Union and United Nations (Economic Commission for Europe) institutions and relevant public and private international or national bodies on the matters above;

(g) Generation of expert proposals to contribute to the improvement of road safety and to the protection of the environment.

Increase in geographical membership

Since 1994 the number of CITA members increased geographically:

Europe: Estonia, Latvia, Croatia, Portugal, Northern Ireland, Slovakia, Romania

Africa: Tunisia, Algeria

Oceania: New Zealand.

CITA also maintains contacts with Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, Ireland, Burkina Faso, Gabon, South Africa, Lithuania, Norway, China and the Russian Federation.

Changes in sources of funding

There have been no substantial changes in the sources of funding (membership fees).

Affiliation to an international NGO in consultative status

CITA has no such affiliation.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

Attendance at meetings

CITA's representative to ECE (Geneva), Georges Verdon, attended meetings of the Working Party on the Construction of Vehicles (WP.29) on the ECE Inland Transport Committee and some of its expert meetings when items relevant to periodic roadworthiness testing (compulsory periodic vehicle inspection) were on the agenda. More specifically, he attended the one-hundred-and-ninth through one-

hundred-and-sixteenth sessions of the Working Party as well as thirty-first, thirty-second and thirty-third sessions of the Working Party in Pollution and Energy, the forty-third session of the Working Party on Brake and Running Gear and the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth sessions of the Working Party on Noise.

Statements

CITA's participation at the one-hundred-and-sixteenth session of WP.29 (10-13 November 1998) was referred to in the report (TRANS/WP.29/640) as follows:

> *"(e) Cooperation with the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1)*
>
> "...
>
> "30. Considering the question of a revision of the Consolidated Resolution R.E.1, annex 2 — Periodic Inspection of Vehicles — checks to be carried out, WP.29 supported the request of WP.1 to invite the assistance of the International Motor Vehicle Inspection Committee (CITA) in updating this annex. (...)"
>
> *"1997 Agreement on Periodical Technical Inspections*
>
> "128. "...the expert from CITA recalled that the expertise of his organisation had allowed to develop requirements for periodical technical inspections and that CITA was ready to assist their further development also in the framework of Agreement on Periodical Technical Inspections of 13 November 1997."

Further to the above remarks made during the one-hundred-and-sixteenth session of the Working Party, CITA received in the beginning of 1999 a formal request for assistance from the WP.29 secretariat. CITA replied positively to both requests.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

See the information provided above.

Other relevant activities

CITA cooperates closely with the institutions of the European Union.

CITA is represented by its Technical Adviser in the Technical Adaptation Committee on Roadworthiness Testing under the presidency of Directorate General VII (Inland Transport) of the European Commission. The European Union and WP.29 are increasingly cooperating to ensure conformity between their legislations and to avoid duplication in their work.

CITA organizes international meetings, attended by members and non-members:

1995 – Third CITA Technical Symposium (Ghent, Belgium);

1996 – Fourth General Assembly (Helsinki);

1997 – Fifth Extraordinary General Assembly and Fourth CITA Technical Symposium (Antwerp, Belgium);

1998 – Sixth CITA General Assembly (Bonn).

Seven working groups are active within CITA:

1. Exhaust Emissions
2. On-Board Diagnostics
3. Quality Assurance
4. New Test Items
5. Brake Testing
6. Scope of Roadworthiness Testing
7. Electronically Controlled Systems

CITA publishes every two years a survey (CITA General Questionnaire), collecting and analysing information on roadworthiness testing throughout the world.

A newsletter (*CITA News*) is published three to four times a year in English and/or French. It includes, among other things, an item on developments in ECE.

5. Latin American Association of Development Financing Institutions

(Special consultative status granted in 1973)

Introduction

The Latin American Association of Development Financing Institutions (ALIDE) is an international non-governmental organization which represents institutions that finance development in Latin America and the Caribbean. Its aim is to promote the cohesion, strengthening and participation of financial institutions in social and economic fields of the region.

The permanent headquarters of ALIDE is in Lima. The headquarters is at the centre of a system of national coordinators and institutional contacts throughout Latin American and Caribbean countries.

ALIDE is financed by its members and by international cooperation organizations and agencies. The annual budget is supplemented by the generation of its own revenue from tertiary services.

Objectives

The objectives of the organization are:

(a) To strengthen the functioning and participation of financial institutions in the social and economic fields in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(b) To encourage the exchange of information and coordination and cooperation between members, with the aim of optimizing the use of the resources available, and to support the institutions in their goals, to modernize its management structure and to widen its support in the process of economic change in the region;

(c) To establish the systematic reciprocal exchange of information;

(d) To undertake studies of problems of common interest which reflect the philosophy and objectives of development banking as a national and regional system;

(e) To encourage business management and regional financial cooperation as a means of promoting the organization's contribution to the Latin American integration process.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

The Secretary-Technical attended the Sixth Technical Consultation on the Scheme for Agricultural Credit Development (SACRED) organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Amman, from 22 to 24 May 1995.

The Secretary-General attended the deliberations of the High Level Ministerial Range Regional Meeting of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in Montevideo, from 19 to 22 September 1995. The Secretary-General presented a written statement entitled "The panorama of industrial development financing in Latin America".

The Head of the ALIDE Documentation Centre attended the Fifth Consultation Meeting of the Information Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (INFOLAC) organized by the Latin America Information Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Lima, from 4 to 6 October 1995.

The ALIDE National Coordinator in Venezuela attended the Latin America and Caribbean Consultation and Coordination Meeting prior to the Ninth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD IX) held in Caracas from 16 to 17 January 1996.

The Vice-President of ALIDE attended the NGO Consultation in relation to the World Food Summit organized by FAO in Asunción, from 30 June to 1 July 1996.

The ALIDE Liaison Officer in Paraguay attended the twenty-fourth FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean held in Asunción from 2 to 6 July 1996.

The ALIDE Adviser on International Finance Cooperation attended the High Level Ministerial Range Seminar on "Industrial policies for competitiveness" organized by UNIDO in Lima from 5 to 8 August 1996.

The Documentation Centre specialist attended the seventh regional meeting of CDS/ISIS software distributors organized by UNESCO in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia. The specialist presented a written statement about ALIDE action in distributing CDS/ISIS.

The Secretary-Technical attended the Seventh Technical Consultation on SACRED in Tehran from 4 to 7 May 1997.

The Secretary-Technical attended the expert meeting on "Challenges and perspectives in information management and information technology" organized by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Santiago from 26 to 28 November 1997.

The Chief of the Economic and Research Department attended the international teleconference "World Food Summit: promises and perspectives", convened by FAO in Lima on 30 October 1997.

The Secretary-Technical attended the UNIDO Intechmart in Cartagena, Colombia, from 7 to 9 June 1998. The Secretary-Technical presented a written statement entitled "Perspectives of the action of development banks and ALIDE in the framework of an increased regional and financial cooperation".

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

In the area of studies and research, ALIDE collaborates with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in the areas of economic research and development policies.

In the field of agricultural financing, ALIDE collaborates with FAO. A joint study, "Guarantees in rural lending", was published in 1996 in the framework of the ALIDE-FAO programme.

FAO sponsored the two following Latin American ALIDE meetings: thirteenth Latin American meeting on agricultural financing, Santiago, 2 to 4 November 1995 and fourteenth Latin American meeting on agricultural financing, Brasilia, 9 to 11 October 1996.

With the purpose of complementing activities in the field of financing and promotion of industrial sector development, a memorandum of agreement was signed in July 1996 between ALIDE and UNIDO. This resulted in the joint organization of a seminar on "Techniques of identification, formulation, evaluation and promotion of investment projects for countries of the Andean region" held in Lima from 17 to 19 July 1997.

In the field of external trade, ALIDE exchanges information with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) about trade flows between developing countries.

In the information and documentation area, the ALIDE Documentation Centre and Regional Information Network (RIALIDE), maintains cooperative relations with UNESCO.

6. National Bar Association, Inc.

(Special consultative status granted in 1985)

Brief introductory statement recalling the aims and purposes of the organization

The purpose of the National Bar Association is "... to advance the science of jurisprudence, uphold the honour of the legal profession, promote social intercourse among the members of the bar, and protect the civil and political rights of all citizens of the several states of the United States" and the world.

The purpose of this report is to give the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations information about the activities of the National Bar Association, Inc., such that we retain our "special" status for the next four years.

Our NGO is committed to promoting the rule of law throughout the world. Almost all of our international activities focus on transnational legal institutions, lawyers and legal systems.

We are the only mainstream organization of African American attorneys which holds special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. We represent at the Council the perspectives of peoples of colour worldwide as they face the adversities of legal problems within their lives.

We expect to play a pivotal role in the forthcoming World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance to be held in South Africa in 2001.

Moreover, the annual National Bar Association international affiliate meeting in countries outside of the United States allows us first-hand knowledge of the legal problems of others and their legal systems.

Increase in geographical membership

The geographical membership of the National Bar Association has increased beyond the United States to several countries throughout the world. The total membership is 20,000. There are 87 local affiliates and 14 international affiliates.

Changes in sources of funding

There have been no such changes.

Affiliation to any international NGO in consultative status

We have no such affiliation.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conference and other United Nations meetings

NBA has been represented at the following meetings:

(a) Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, September 1995 and at the NGO Forum at the Conferences;

(b) Commission on Human Rights, Geneva, Switzerland, 1995-1998; in 1997 we made an oral intervention on "The rights of African Americans and people of colour worldwide to be free from economic subjugation";

(c) Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, Geneva, Switzerland, 1995-1998;

(d) United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court (ICC), Rome, June/July 1999;

(e) First session of the Preparatory Commission for ICC, United Nations Headquarters, 16-26 February 1999;

(f) Second session of the Preparatory Commission for ICC, United Nations Headquarters, 26 July-13 August 1999.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

NBA sent observers to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, 1997 and 1998, and to the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, The Hague, 1995 and 1996.

Other relevant activities

NBA held international meetings in South Africa (1995), Accra (1996), Bahia, Brazil (1997), and Tanzania and Kenya (1998).

With respect to the banana tariff issue, NBA held a seminar in Jamaica in 1997 on the fairness of the removal of protective tariffs for the banana trade in selected Caribbean countries.

NBA sent a delegation in 1994 and in 1995 to South Africa to prepare for the elections and then subsequently to be observers for the election; a delegation went to South Africa for post-election observations in June 1996.

Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

The National Bar Association adopted resolutions at its annual meetings in 1995-1998 on issues of international concern:

(a) The relationship between political parity and economic development in South Africa;

(b) The need to support the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda with donations of goods and services;

(c) The fairness of the removal of protective tariffs for the banana trade in selected Caribbean countries;

(d) Resolutions (1996) on the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racism and Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.

Consultations and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

NBA has had consultations and cooperated with officials in the Department of Human Resources Management of the United Nations concerning a donation from Westlaw on-line legal research services to the two international criminal tribunals. The donation of unlimited use of on-line legal research services for four years is worth millions of dollars in in-kind services to the tribunals.

Presentations

At a workshop of the Amnesty International Midwest Regional Conference, held on 31 October 1998 at University of Cincinnati College of Law, Cincinnati, Ohio, NBA made a presentation on the topic "The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court: compromise of victory or disaster?"

Professor George Edwards, NBA member, gave a briefing on the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in Hong Kong at the Human Rights Committee meeting in November 1999.

NBA made a presentation entitled "Fifty years of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: 10 December 1948-10 December 1998 and beyond", to the Amnesty International Indianapolis Chapter, 14 December 1997.

7. International Prison Watch

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

The object of the organization International Prison Watch (OIP) is to monitor prison conditions in all parts of the world and to draw attention to cases where the human rights of prisoners may be violated.

The organization is made up of individuals committed to ensuring respect for the rights of persons deprived of their liberty. Its mission is threefold: to monitor, to highlight problems and to protect. Its work is based on international human-rights instruments which call for the elimination of torture and ill-treatment, the application of international standards in the treatment of prisoners, and the prohibition of unlawful and arbitrary detention. OIP also rejects by all appropriate means the imposition and execution of the death penalty.

International Prison Watch seeks, free from any political consideration and with due respect for the law, to call the attention of the authorities and public opinion to any shortcomings identified in the prison system.

It encourages the citizens of each country to take an interest in prison conditions.

It has developed a network of over 250 contacts throughout the world. Its partners include not only associations for the promotion and protection of human rights, but also ordinary individuals, citizens who are determined to ensure respect for human dignity.

OIP can boast 12 national branches, some already established and others in the process of being set up (Argentina, Belgium, Burundi, Cameroon, Ecuador, France, Lebanon, Madagascar, Senegal and Sierra Leone).

Since its creation, it has published six annual reports on prison conditions throughout the world. In addition, in 1998, it published a world report on child prisoners.

It has had consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council since 1995. It participates regularly in the work of the Commission on Human Rights and its Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (formerly the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities) in Geneva.

At the fifty-third session of the Commission in 1998, OIP made an oral statement under agenda item 10 in which it drew attention to massive violations of human rights being perpetrated in Chad and Indonesia involving arbitrary and mass arrests, summary executions, torture and rape. In its statement under agenda item 8, it expressed concern also on behalf of its local partners at the conditions facing prisoners in Latin America, and, more specifically, in Ecuador, Mexico and Venezuela. As its observation missions had shown, due process of law is not always

guaranteed in those countries when it comes to arrest and detention procedures. Arrests are routinely accompanied by humiliation and violence.

At the Subcommission's fiftieth session, in August 1998, OIP delivered an oral statement under agenda item 2 expressing grave concern over the plight of prisoners who had received sentences of death in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan and Pakistan. In a further statement, it also drew attention to the scale of the violence observed in prisons in Venezuela, Colombia and Peru.

In its oral statement under agenda item 8, it drew the Subcommission's attention to the situation of prisoners suffering from human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) in African prisons.

Its statement under agenda item 9 focused on the situation of minors subjected to deprivation of liberty in different parts of the world, with particular reference to the use of the death penalty in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, the United States of America and Yemen.

During the fifty-first session of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, in August 1999, the organization made a statement under agenda item 9, and focused on two issues: prison conditions in South America (Argentina and Paraguay), and the situation of female prisoners. The statements on prison conditions in Argentina included questions addressed to the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations. Since then, the Argentine branch of OIP has held regular meetings with the Argentine authorities on instances where the human rights of prisoners may have been violated in that country.

In addition to making oral statements, OIP has taken advantage of the Commission and Subcommission sessions to meet members of other non-governmental organizations and representatives from different countries.

The team working on the programme concerning minors in prison took part in the sessions of the Committee on the Rights of the Child held at Geneva between 1997 and 1999, attending meetings and submitting alternative reports on the effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in countries to which visits had been made under that programme.

OIP has also worked in partnership with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) in the context of an international conference on HIV/AIDS in African prisons. Together with its regional delegation for Africa, it steered the organization of an international conference on HIV/AIDS in African prisons held at Dakar from 16 to 18 February 1998. The conference, which was organized in collaboration with Senegal's national anti-AIDS campaign, was attended by a large number of partners, including UNAIDS in Switzerland, the United Nations Development Programme in Dakar and New York and the World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa.

It should further be stressed that consultative status is a vital tool in assuring the success of observation and investigatory missions at detention centres. In keeping with the Charter of the United Nations and United Nations human rights instruments, OIP uses its consultative status to persuade the authorities to give it access to detention centres. OIP representatives have carried out observation missions in more than 20 countries since 1995. They have been able to visit prisons and police stations in 15 countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad,

Chile, Ecuador, Lebanon, Madagascar, Nepal, Paraguay, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain and Venezuela) and have interviewed prison administration officials and representatives of the judiciary, to whom they have submitted their findings and recommendations. Mission reports are written as part of the follow-up, and a note is prepared for the OIP's annual report on prison conditions throughout the world. All of these documents are released to Governments, the embassies of the countries concerned, international organizations, local human rights and humanitarian organizations, as well as to the media during press conferences. All reports and questions concerning observed violations of rights systematically refer to our consultative status with the United Nations.

8. Resources for the Future

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

Resources for the Future (RFF) is a non-profit and non-partisan think tank that conducts independent research — rooted primarily in economics and other social sciences — on environmental and natural resource issues. RFF is a publicly funded organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Our operating budget is derived from investment income, government grants and contributions from individuals, foundations and corporations.

RFF's involvement with the United Nations has come primarily through our Climate Economics and Policy Programme, which conducts and disseminates research related to domestic and international climate change policies. RFF staff from the Climate Economics and Policy Programme have worked extensively with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in recent years, including by participating in the Fourth Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC held in Buenos Aires in 1998.

RFF staff have worked closely with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on many levels. We have participated in several working sessions of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Policy Forum. We have been involved with UNCTAD and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as a member of the International Working Group on the Clean Development Mechanism. And RFF staff contributed written material to the "Design and Implementation of the Clean Development Mechanism" draft report prepared by UNCTAD as a product of the International Working Group on the Clean Development Mechanism.

In addition, RFF has devoted substantial resources to disseminating the activities of UNFCCC through the establishment of a web site known as Weathervane (http://www.weathervane.rff.org). Weathervane is an on-line forum designed to provide the news media, legislators, opinion leaders and the interested public with analysis and commentary on policy initiatives related to climate change. The aim of Weathervane is to provide a balanced and objective forum for the careful climate change analysis that is essential in policy-making. To help accomplish this goal, Weathervane features:

(a) "Perspectives on policy", an on-line forum in which we solicit the views of key voices from academia, Government and industry on issues related to climate change and the ongoing international negotiations;

(b) "At the negotiating table", a venue where we track all international activity related to the Kyoto Protocol;

(c) Feature articles. Weathervane posts approximately four new feature articles each week that provide insight into breaking news in the climate change arena;

(d) "Climate issue briefs", short reports providing timely, topical information and analysis about climate change issues to a broad non-technical audience. A full inventory of "Climate issue briefs" can be accessed at http://www.weathervane.rff.org/archives/climatebriefs.html.

Weathervane has logged more than 2 million hits and hosted more than 85,000 user sessions since it was established in July 1997. In addition to visitors from the United States, we have interacted with visitors from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, France, Denmark, Norway, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Austria, the Republic of Korea, Taiwan, Italy, Malaysia and Brazil.

Beyond climate change, RFF's researchers produce approximately 50 research papers and a dozen books and reports each year on issues ranging from electric utility restructuring to sustainable forestry. All research at RFF is guided by the notions that sensible environmental policy must balance the costs and benefits of proposed alternatives, and that once environmental goals are established, we should accomplish these goals in the most inexpensive way possible. All of RFF's recent research can be accessed through our main web site: http://www.rff.org.

9. Simon Wiesenthal Center

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

Introduction

Founded by its present Dean, Rabbi Marvin Hier, the Simon Wiesenthal Center is an international Jewish human rights organization with a membership of 440,000. Established in Los Angeles in 1977, it draws the lessons of the Holocaust to the analysis of contemporary issues.

The Center carries the name of the Nazi investigator who has brought over 1,100 war criminals to the bar of justice. Still active in his ninety-first year in the city of Vienna, his purpose in granting his name to an institution in his own lifetime was to prevent a recurrence of the Holocaust for any people.

His Center today is truly international, with offices throughout the United States and regional bureaux in Toronto, Paris, Jerusalem and Buenos Aires. Though the majority of membership are in North America, there are expanding support groups in the United Kingdom, across Europe and in Latin America. The Center maintains an extensive global network of correspondents on human rights issues.

It has held NGO status at sessions of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Parliament and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

and is represented on the Executive Board of the European Network against Racism (ENAR), which has consultative status with the European Commission and the European Racism and Xenophobia Information Network (RAXEN) in Vienna.

Even before achieving consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, the Wiesenthal Center had already worked in cooperation with such United Nations specialized agencies as UNESCO:

(a) Holding a joint conference in Paris in 1992 on "Educating against prejudice — the case of resurgent anti-Semitism". This resulted from a meeting between Simon Wiesenthal and UNESCO Director-General Federico Mayor that addressed the incipient problem of "technology in the service of hate", i.e. the pernicious effect upon young people of neo-Nazi computer games;

(b) In 1993, Mr. Mayor opened the Center's Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles — a hi-tech human rights laboratory, since then visited by over 3 million people. This educational arm is directed to youth and, by interactive pedagogy, sets personal challenges in confronting the dilemmas of democracy and the Culture of Peace. Such world leaders as the late King Hussein of Jordan, President Vaclav Havel of the Czech Republic, the Dalai Lama, the late President Herzog of Israel, diplomats and members of United Nations missions have visited and spoken from its podium. The museum is the focus for the civic action "Tools for tolerance" programme that trains military personnel and law enforcement agents towards sensitivity to social pluralism.

Participation in United Nations meetings

At the close of the United Nations Year for Tolerance in November 1995 in New York, Simon Wiesenthal addressed the General Assembly as a delegate of Austria. In his statement, he warned the global community of the potential for atrocity in the former Yugoslavia, urging immediate international measures. As a result, the Center was involved in several Year of Tolerance pedagogical initiatives in European educational institutions through its mobile 40-panel exhibition "The courage to remember" and its Oscar-winning documentary film, "Genocide".

In 1996, the Center's Associate Dean, Rabbi Abraham Cooper, sounded an alarm on "Hate, terrorism and mayhem on the Internet" at the Commission on Human Rights session in Geneva.

During the European Year against Racism in 1997, the Center organized an international high school essay competition together with UNESCO and the European Parliament. The 28 laureates from 15 countries were received at both organizations' headquarters in Paris and Strasbourg, respectively, where they were received by the Parliament's President and UNESCO's Director-General.

In 1998, the Center "premiered" its second Oscar-winning documentary, "The Long Way Home", at the United Nations Office at Geneva, co-sponsored by the Permanent Mission of the United States. The film is a case study of the refugee phenomenon (survivors of the Nazi Holocaust, confined in Western internment camps from 1945 to 1948, seek safe haven — a home).

In the same year, the Center held a conference on "Past and present — from Nuremberg to The Hague" at United Nations Headquarters. Participants included United States Senator Christopher Dodd, *Newsday* Pulitzer prize-winning journalist

Roy Gutman, the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations, Mohamed Sacirbey, emeritus Chairman of the United Nations Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations in the Former Yugoslavia, Cherif Bassiouni, the Center's Washington, D.C. legal counsel, Martin Mendelsohn, and the Director of the Center's Task Force against Hate, Mark Weitzman.

On 19 March 1999, the Center distributed its CD-ROM "Digital hate 2000", exposing some 1,500 Internet sites that promote racism and violence. This was given to every United Nations delegation.

On 4 November 1999, the Center opened "Visas for life: the righteous diplomats" at the United Nations Office at Geneva. This exhibition honoured diplomats who during the Second World War courageously rescued thousands of Jews from the Nazi Holocaust. They included Hiram Bingham, Jr. of the United States of America, Aristedes de Sousa Mendes of Portugal, Chiune Sugihara of Japan and Raoul Wallenberg of Sweden. The exhibition will also open in the Visitors' Gallery Museum Exhibit area of United Nations Headquarters on 3 April 2000, under the auspices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. The Center will be bringing especially from Europe several of the surviving diplomats.

Cooperation with specialized agencies

In June 1999, the Center organized, together with UNESCO, an international conference in Moscow on "Tolerance-building for civic society — against extremism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism" under the patronage of the Mayor of Moscow, the Ministry of Nationalities of the Russian Federation, the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Presidential Commission on Human Rights and the Russian National Commission of UNESCO.

In the same month, the Center held, together with the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, and in the framework of the UNESCO Culture of Peace programme, an international colloquium in Vienna on "Confronting crimes against humanity — from human rights to international responsibilities", with a special session on "Kosovo in the mirror of Nuremberg".

Other relevant activities

The following events were held at the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles:

(a) 29 October 1998, "Artists and refugees: war-exiled Bosnian women weave the fabric of hope". This exhibition was presented in cooperation with the Susret Art Workshop in Austria, the Austrian Consulate General of Los Angeles and the Austrian Cultural Institute of New York, and Soroptimist International. Composed of 45 tapestries, quilts and rugs handcrafted by Bosnian women refugees in Austria together with drawings by children traumatized by the ethnic violence in the Balkans;

(b) 5 December 1998, "Reunions: the lost children of Rwanda". This exhibition, organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross, was sponsored by Eastman Kodak Company and Life Magazine. The 6,000 portraits included were part of the over 20,000 photographs displayed in refugee camps, intended to reunite lost Rwandan children with their families;

(c) 25 February 1999, "International symposium and eyewitness report on slavery in Africa today: a call for freedom", co-sponsored by the American Anti-Slavery Group, Inc. and Loveland Church. The symposium features first-person accounts from escaped slaves and historians with interactive discussion on effective international responses;

(d) The Wiesenthal Center in 1994 launched ARARE (Academic Response to anti-Semitism and Racism in Europe), currently comprising over 500 rectors and professors of all faiths and disciplines at universities in more than 30 countries across Europe. ARARE conferences have included "Resurgent Fascism as a threat to minorities" (Oxford, United Kingdom, 1994), "From xenophobia to tolerance — Jews and Muslims" (Paris, 1995), "The smiling face of Fascism" (London, 1996), "World War II combatants and neutrals — shattered myths and deconstructed memories" (Brussels, 1997), "Hate on the Internet — dangers and realities" (Paris, 1998), "Fifty years of human rights — visions and realities" (Prague, 1999);

(e) The Center, through its Moriah Films Division, has produced four full-length documentaries, two of which have won an Academy Award: Genocide (Oscar 1981), Echoes that Remain (based on Eastern European film archives opened after 1989), Liberation (on the Normandy landings), The Long Way Home (Oscar 1998 for its study of the refugee phenomenon).

Simon Wiesenthal, the man, will mark his ninety-first birthday on 31 December 1999. Still active in combating the consequences of totalitarianism, he has said "I have received many honours in my life. The greatest honour is that the Center that bears my name will ensure that my work is continued: ..."

10. World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations

(Special consultative status granted in 1947)

The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) is a worldwide Christian, ecumenical, voluntary movement for women and men with special emphasis on and the genuine involvement of young people, which seeks to share the Christian ideal of building a human community of justice with love, peace and reconciliation for the fullness of all creation. The World Alliance of YMCAs represents the YMCA at all levels by providing leadership on thematic issues, Christian mission, youth and gender, justice and human rights issues, development, capacity-building, responses to emergencies, communications and research.

The organization's representatives in New York, Geneva and other centres have attended various United Nations meetings throughout the reporting period. There are over 35 million members of YMCAs all over the world. This does not include programme participants who do not pay membership fees but are recipients of YMCA services. There are no accurate statistics of their numbers, but broad estimates suggest that the YMCA has a reach of double the membership, which means that at least 70 million are affected by YMCA interventions.

The organization closely follows the agendas of the United Nations and attends briefings on special subjects, especially those related to the organization's priorities. Because the YMCA is so diverse in its work around the world, documents received from United Nations sources are often helpful to one or another of the YMCA

movements around the world. The World Alliance of YMCAs also joins NGO-related events organized around United Nations conferences. Frequently the organization co-signs statements with other organizations.

Actions in implementation of United Nations resolutions include:

(a) Meetings with officials of the United Nations and its agencies, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization, the Division for Palestinian Rights and the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, the Centre for Disarmament, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service, etc.;

(b) The World Alliance of YMCAs often duplicates copies of relevant circulars from the United Nations for member national movements with a view to making them aware of and becoming involved in the issues at the national and local levels;

(c) Many United Nations issues are on the global agendas of the worldwide YMCA. Some examples include: women, population, health and nutrition, HIV/AIDS, housing for the poor, landmines, disability, drugs and substance abuse, poverty elimination, racism, refugees, rights of children, disarmament, migrants and asylum-seekers, cultural development, literacy, Palestinian rights and globalization;

(d) A number of national and local YMCAs have worked with United Nations agencies at their levels;

(e) On average, the World Alliance of YMCAs has 8-10 representatives who follow activities at the United Nations Offices in Geneva and at Headquarters. Our relations with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in Paris have decreased in the past few years. However, there is an attempt to revive this relationship and the YMCA in France will act as the representative of the World Alliance in Paris;

(f) Articles published in *YMCA WORLD*, the quarterly publication of the World Alliance of YMCAs, have dealt with issues emanating from the United Nations.

11. World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women

(Special consultative status granted in 1983)

WFMUCW is a global Christian women's organization which has grown from 7 million members in 70 countries to 7.5 million members in 74 countries between 1995 and 1998. Its purpose is "To know Christ and to make Him known". The organization aims at:

(a) Developing a global sisterhood of spiritual fellowship and shared values;

(b) Witnessing through social action in the areas of community, national and international life;

(c) Identifying needs and issues and creating projects for developing the quality of life of women and children;

(d) Education, social and spiritual ministries.

Funding is mainly through voluntary subscription by members.

In pursuing its purpose and aims, WFMUCW has worked closely with the United Nations during the reporting period, using its special consultative status to the maximum of its resources. Issues such as the advancement of women and human rights, in particular the rights of women and children, have been given high priority. Other issues covered include peace, development, employment, child labour, health, older persons and harmful traditional practices.

WFMUCW is currently a member of the Board of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) and a member of the NGO Committee on UNICEF. Renate Bloem, a WFMUCW representative in Geneva, was elected Chair of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women and convenor of two working groups. WFMUCW also serves on the NGO Special Committee on Human Rights, on the NGO Committee on Development, on the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Subgroups on Sexual Exploitation, Child Labour and Children in Armed Conflict. Renate was also elected during this period to the Coordinating Committee of the NGO Forum for Health.

The following is a summary account of participation by WFMUCW in Economic and Social Council bodies, other United Nations meetings and United Nations world conferences, as well as submission of statements:

(a) 1995: Inter-sessional working group of the Commission on the Status of Women, submission of text proposals on the "non-papers" for the Platform for Action for the Fourth World Conference on Women on the Girl Child and Women's Human Rights (January); oral statement, Committee on the Rights of the Child (January); Commission on Human Rights, oral statement on the Girl Child on behalf of 41 NGOs, joint statement on women's rights, joint statement on methods of work of the Commission (March); NGO Consultation of the Commission on the Status of Women on new text proposals for the Platform for Action (March); Economic Commission for Europe, joint NGO statement on follow-up to the high-level regional preparatory meeting (April); United Nations Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, oral statement on sexual exploitation of the girl child (May); Economic and Social Council, substantive session (July); meeting with United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali to discuss Follow-up of world conferences, special session of the Economic and Social Council with a panel of CONGO members, joint NGO statement on concerns for delay of accreditation for some NGOs to the Fourth World Conference on Women (July); informal consultation on the Platform for Action, submission of proposals on the paragraph on religion of the Platform for Action (August); NGO Forum, Huairou, China, workshop/panel on girls at risk and Trafficking of Women under the patronage of Queen Fabiola of Belgium, ecumenical engagements (September); Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing (September);

(b) 1996: CONGO Board (January); working group on the draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, oral statement at the Committee on the Rights of

the Child (January); Consultation at UNICEF on the World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (February); consultation in Strasbourg on preparations for the regional meeting on sexual exploitation (February); International Women's Day panel speaker (March); Commission on Human Rights, oral statements on women's human rights and sexual exploitation of the girl child (April); European Consultation for World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Strasbourg, represented the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child (April); Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, oral intervention on sexual exploitation and report on Strasbourg meeting (June); CONGO Board (June); World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Stockholm, intervention in plenary and workshops (August); UNICEF workshop on children in armed conflict (October); General Assembly of the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child (October); United Nations Economic Commission for Europe symposium on social protection and older persons at risk, intervention (November); Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, joint statement on globalization and citizenship (November); symposium on religion and Beijing Conference panellist (November);

(c) 1997: Committee on the Rights of the Child, intervention on child labour of girls (January); elected to Coordinating Committee of NGO Forum for Health (February); NGO Consultation and Commission on the Status of Women (March); Commission on Human Rights, start-up of a caucus on women's human rights, statements on violence against women and on sexual exploitation, trafficking and child labour (April); NGO Group on the Rights of the Child, task force on child labour, intervention (April); World Health Assembly, intervention on gender (May); NGO Health Forum Assembly, statement on gender and Beijing (May); Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, intervention on sexual exploitation and child labour of girls (June); International Labour Conference, task force on child labour panel on better jobs for women (June); CONGO Board with Secretary-General Kofi Annan (June); Economic and Social Council, substantive session, panel on gender mainstreaming (July); presentation on the girl child to the United Nations Graduate Study Programme (July); workshop in Austria on child sexual abuse and the churches (July); Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, statement on the human rights of women (August); NGO shadow report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by the Government of Sierra Leone at the request of the NGO Committee on the Convention (October); CONGO General Assembly, re-election to CONGO Board (November); special discussion on the right to food during the session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, intervention on a woman's perspective (December); NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child (December);

(d) 1998: Committee on the Rights of the Child, follow-up to the World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (January); WHO Executive Board (January); ILO task force on child labour (February); CONGO Africa regional meeting, various interventions and rapporteur on the adoption of the Kampala declaration (February); NGO Consultation (Co-Chair) and Commission on the Status of Women (February/March); Chair of panel discussion on the invisible forms of child labour (March); Commission on Human Rights, organized a women's human rights caucus bringing more visibility to gender-related human rights

violations, and organizing orientation and training sessions for new NGOs on the gender perspective and on the girl child (April); World Health Assembly and NGO Forum for the Assembly, speaker and co-Chair of symposium on the effects of globalization on health (May); International Labour Conference, organized a round table on child labour, gender and education (June); CONGO Board (June); WFMUCW Conference for the extended European area on violence against women and girls, adoption of the Stavanger Declaration (July/August); Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, statement on women and girls and harmful traditional practices (August); Committee on the Rights of the Child, intervention on HIV and the girl child (September/October); expert consultation on violence in the family (October); NGO Group for the Committee on the Rights of the Child (October); mission to South Africa, presentations on violence against women (November); Eighth Assembly of the World Council of Churches, Harare, presentation and workshop on abuse and exploitation of children (December).

12. World Futures Studies Federation

(Special consultative status granted in 1987)

Introduction

The World Futures Studies Federation (WFSF) is an international non-profit and non-governmental organization that aims to:

(a) Introduce futures-oriented thinking in all branches of knowledge and action;

(b) Promote futures studies in general and encourage innovative, interdependent and critical thinking across all disciplines, cultures and peoples;

(c) Promote networking between individuals and organizations concerned with futures; and

(d) Promote awareness of threatening futures problems and of prospects for better futures, as well as of the need for institutionalized futures studies to help resolve these problems and realize better futures.

Founded on 26 May 1973 in Paris, WFSF emerged from the ideas and pioneer work of eminent social scientists like Igor Bestuzhev-Lada, Bertrand de Jouvenel, Johan Galtung, Robert Jungk, John McHale and others who, in the 1960s, conceived of the concept of futures studies at the global level, to address the increasingly complex problems of the times.

WFSF is currently composed of 65 institutional members and 475 individual members from 71 countries across all continents of the world. To maintain independence of thought, the Federation is funded mainly by the membership payments of its members. For courses and conferences, host universities/institutions and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization mainly support the Federation.

The Federation has formal consultative status with UNESCO and enjoys close cooperation with the United Nations University, the United Nations Development

Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization. It is also an associate member of the International Social Science Council. Throughout its history, WFSF has been supported by various national, international and regional institutions such as Mankind 2000, the Club of Rome and Futuribles, with the secretariat hosted every four years by the different academic institutions from among its members in different countries around the world.

Cooperation with the United Nations

The Federation cooperates with the United Nations mainly through promoting activities that support the goals and thrusts of the Organization.

In 1995-1997, in particular, WFSF collaborated closely with the Analysis and Forecasting Unit of UNESCO in drafting the Declaration on the Responsibilities of Present Generations Towards Future Generations and a WFSF Executive Board member, Ziauddin Sardar, delivered a speech at a UNESCO meeting held in October 1997.

Members also regularly and actively contribute articles and papers to the UNESCO publications *Futuresco* and others. During the reporting period, "The future of human rights and democracy" and "Impact and future challenges of new communications technologies", two entire volumes of futures-oriented literature written mostly by WFSF members, were published in *Futuresco* No. 5 (June 1996) and No. 6 (October 1996), respectively. Other publications during the period in support of United Nations thrusts are:

(a) "The futures of communications", a report on a WFSF course in Andorra, October 1994, by Ihsan Inayatullah and Obijiofor, published in *Futures*, vol. 27, No. 8, pp. 897-903;

(b) "The futures of the university", a report on the Southern Cross University course, by Gidley, Wildman and Inayatullhah, published in Lismore, Australia, 1995;

(c) "Futures of peace, civilizations, structures and visions", a report on the Asia-Pacific Futures Course in the Philippines in November 1994 by Elliott and Pandan, published in the WFSF *Futures Bulletin*, vol. 21, No. 2, June 1995;

(d) *The Future of Democracy in the Developing World*, selections from the WFSF Regional Conference in Islamabad, Pakistan, October 1992, by Azam, Dator and Inayatullah (eds.), 1995;

(e) *Futures Beyond Poverty — Ways and Means Out of the Current Stalemate*, selections from the fourteenth WFSF World Conference in Nairobi, 25-29 July 1995, by Ogutu, Malaska and Kojola (eds.), 1997; and

(f) Proceedings of the Nordic Regional Symposium, March 1997, in progress.

Courses and conferences for the period are:

1. *Kondratieff Ideas and Dynamics of Society on the Borderline of the 3rd Millennium, 7th Interdisciplinary Discussion: Ecofuture — A Road to Catastrophe*

or to Nooshpere?, in collaboration with the Kondratieff Foundation, Russia, March 1995;

2. *Futures Beyond Poverty*, 14th WFSF World Conference, Nairobi, Kenya, July 1995;

3. *Creating A 21st Century Philippines — Futures in Education and Futures of Education*, workshop in collaboration with the Philippine Futuristics Society, Philippines, September 1995;

4. *The Futures of Universities*, workshop at and in collaboration with Southern Cross University, Australia, November 1995;

5. *Futures in Education*, workshop in collaboration with IKD and the Malaysian Ministry of Education, Malaysia, December 1995;

6. *Visioning for the Future and Educational Perspectives*, an Asia-Pacific Introduction to Futures Studies Course, Malaysia, June 1996;

7. *Approaches to Sustainable Development: Problems of the Baltic Region, Europe and the Globe*, St. Petersburg, Russia, July 1996;

8. *The Future of the Welfare State*, a futures methodologies course in Reykjavik, Iceland, 20-22 March 1997; and

9. *Global Conversations: What You and I Can Do for Future Generations*, 15th WFSF World Conference, Brisbane, Australia, September-October 1997.